

Message Text

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12

ACTION IO-03

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-07 NSCE-00 AID-10 EB-03 L-02

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FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4587

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

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LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UN AID UNDRO

SUBJ: UNITED NATIONS DISASTER RELIEF

REF: STATE 138758

1. DURING CONVERSATION JUNE 28 WITH SECRETARY GENERAL WALDHEIM, I DISCUSSED WITH HIM OUR CONCERNS RE UNDRO AND FAILURE OF COORDINATOR TO OPERATE MORE EFFECTIVELY. I POINTED OUT THAT RELIEF ASSISTANCE HAS AN APPEAL IN THE UNITED STATES AND THAT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT WOULD BE MOTIVATED TO RESPOND WITH MORE SUPPORT FOR UN BUDTET RESOURCES IN DISASTER RELIEF IF COORDINATOR OFFERED MORE EFFECTIVE LEADERSHIP.

2. NOT SURPRISINGLY, WALDHEIM RESPONDED BY RECALLING THAT COORDINATOR WAS U.S. NOMINEE. HE COMMENTED HE HAD ASSUMED AT THE TIME WE HAD BROADER REASONS BEHIND OUR ACTIVE PRESS FOR BERKOL. HE AND RANKING MEMBERS OF HIS STAFF SHARE OUR VIEW ON NEED FOR COORDINATOR TO OPERATE MORE EFFECTIVELY. WALDHEIM ALSO AGREES THAT BETTER TO HAVE OPERATION RUN FROM NEW YORK BUT IN ADDITION TO

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BERKOL'S RESISTANCE TO MOVE FROM GENEVA, HE POINTS OUT THERE IS

ALSO GA DECISION IN FAVOR OF GENEVA (RES 2816, XXVI).

3. WALDHEIM WENT ON TO ASAY THAT HE HAS TRIED TO COPE WITH PROBLEM IN A PRACTICAL WAY. HE HAS MADE GREATER USE OF UNDER SECRETARY BRADFORD MORSE AND SIR ROBERT JACKSON IN DISASTER RELIEF FIELD THATN WOULD BE THE CASE IF UNDRO WERE MORE EFFECTIVE. HE INTTENDS TO GO ON DOING THIS. IN ADDITION TO MORSE'S WORK ON THE SAHEL PROBLEM AND JACKSON'S EARLIER EMPLOYMENT ON BANGLADESH RELIEF, HE HAS JACKSON STILL WORKING ON ZAMBIAN PROBLEMS AND IS USING LATTER TO DOORDINATE REPORT ON REORGANIZATION OF ECOSOC. HE WILL CONTINUE TO AVAIL HIMSELF OF JACKSON'S TALENTS.

4. COMMENT: SYG IS CLEARLY VERY HIGH ON JACKSON. IT MAY WELL WORK OUT OVER COMING MONTHS THAT JACKSON WILL BE USED MORE AND MORE VICE BERKOL AS NEW PROBLEMS ARISE AND WALDHEIM WILL EMPLOY HIS AUSTRIAN SUBTLITIES IN EFFECTIVE GRADUAL REORIENTATION OF DISASTER RELIEF OPERATIONS. GIVEN PRESENT SITUATION AND OUR DESIRE TO STRENGTHEN EFFECTIVENESS OF UNDRO, WE THINK IT IMPORTANT THAT CONCERTED EFFORT BE MADE WITHIN USG TO DETERMINE PRACTICAL SPECIFIC ACTION REQUIRED TO ACCOMPLISH THIS OBJECTIVE. USUN, OF COURSE, WOULD PROVIDE WHATEVER ASSISTANCE IT COULD IN SUCH AN EFFORT.
BENNETT

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